SURAH OF AT-TARIQ

THE RESEARCH:
SURAH OF AT-TARIQ

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THE REFERENCES

1) https://iqra-quran.com/chapters-of-quran/86-at-tariq/

2) https://quran.com/86

BACK

THE BACKGROUND 1

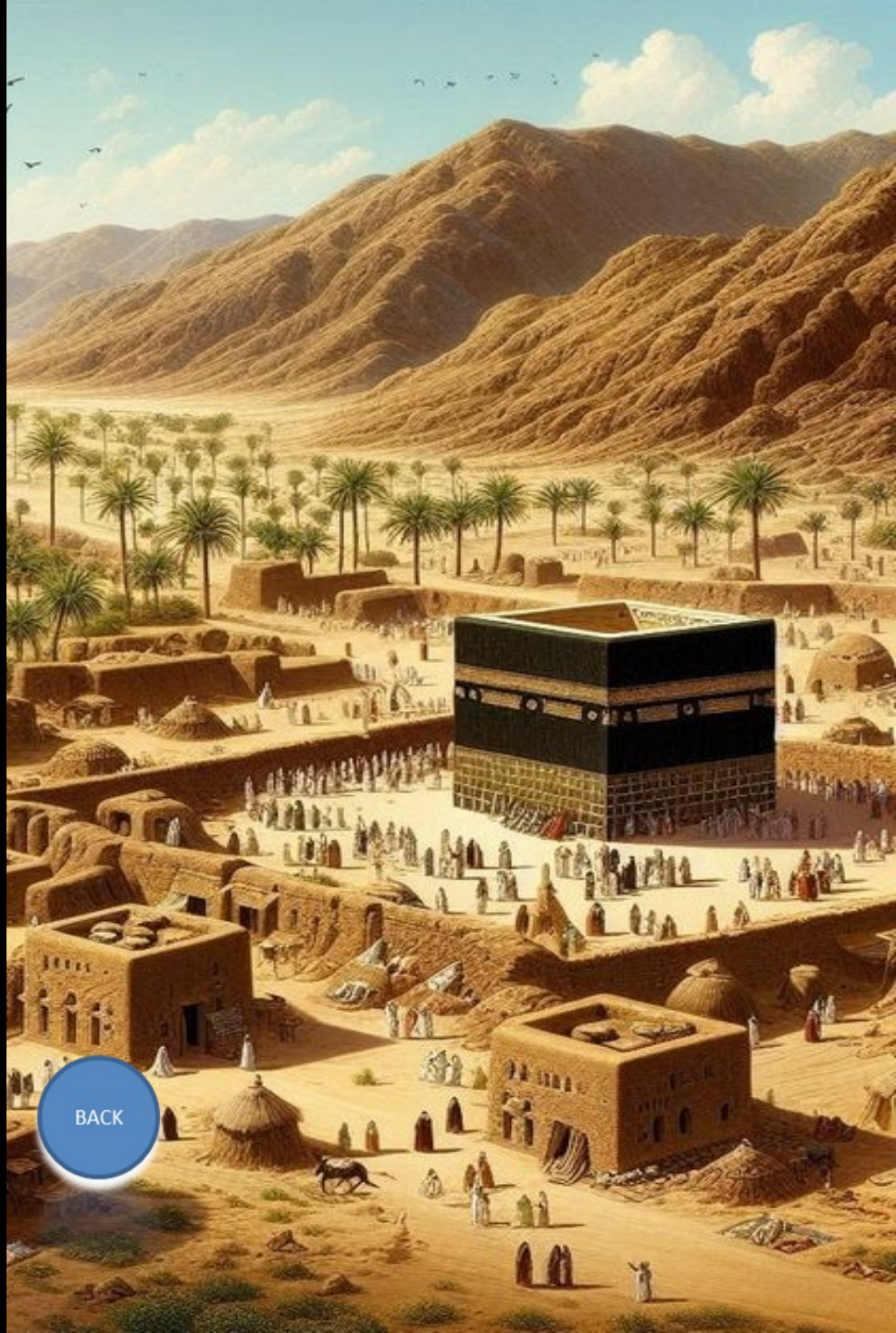
BACK

Its Name

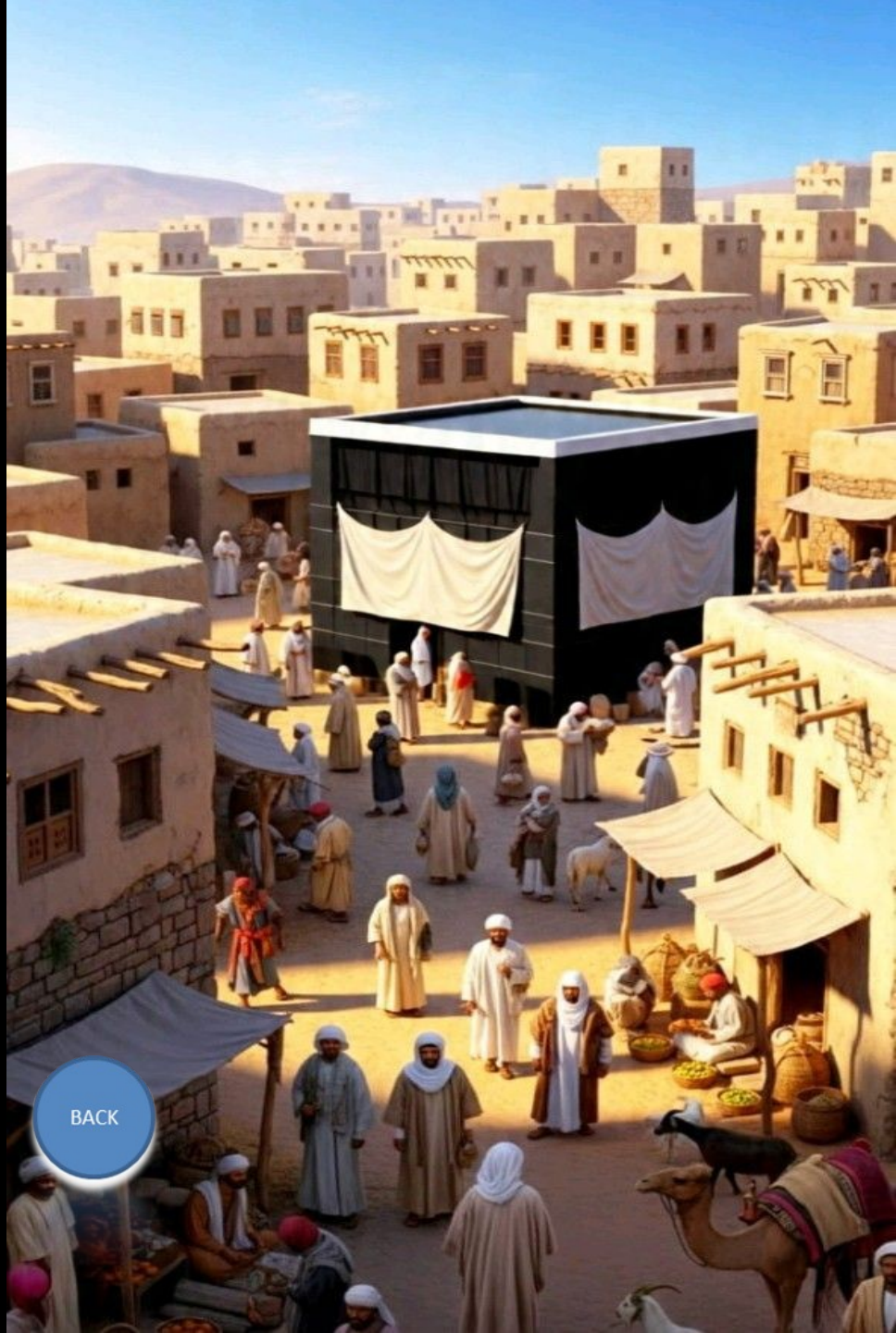
- **Surah Name:** At-Tariq (سـورة الـطارِق)
  Translation: The Morning Star / The Nightcomer
- **Origin of name:** The name is taken from the first verse where the word "At-Tariq," meaning "the night visitor" or "piercing star," appears, referring to a bright celestial object in the night sky.

Revelation Period

- Surah At-Tariq was revealed during a time when the Muslim community in Makkah was still young and facing increasing hostility from the Quraysh. As Islam began to spread, the disbelievers became more aggressive in their opposition, leading to social isolation and even physical persecution of the believers. Some Muslims were forced to leave their homeland due to this growing pressure.



- Despite the resistance to Islam, it is important to note that most of the Quraysh did believe in a creator—an all-powerful being who created the universe. However, they decisively rejected belief in the afterlife and accountability before God. Surah At-Tariq addresses this issue, affirming the certainty of resurrection and divine judgment.



- A narration attributed to Ibn Abbas mentions that this surah was revealed after a remarkable celestial event witnessed by the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) and his uncle Abu Talib. Seeing a brilliant star shooting through the sky, Abu Talib expressed amazement, and the Prophet explained it as one of Allah’s signs. Shortly after this event the revelation of Surah At-Tariq happened. [1,2]

- The surah was also later recited during the Prophet’s mission to Ta'if (around the 10th year of prophethood). [3]
  - During the Medinan period, Mu'adh ibn Jabal used to lead prayers in the mosque of his neighborhood and would recite long surahs after Al-Fatiha. This became burden some for some of the companions, so when the matter was brought to the Prophet’s attention, he instructed Mu'adh to recite shorter surahs such as At-Tariq, Ash-Shams, and Al-Layl instead. [4]

Main Topics 1

BACK

Accountability and the Day of Judgment:

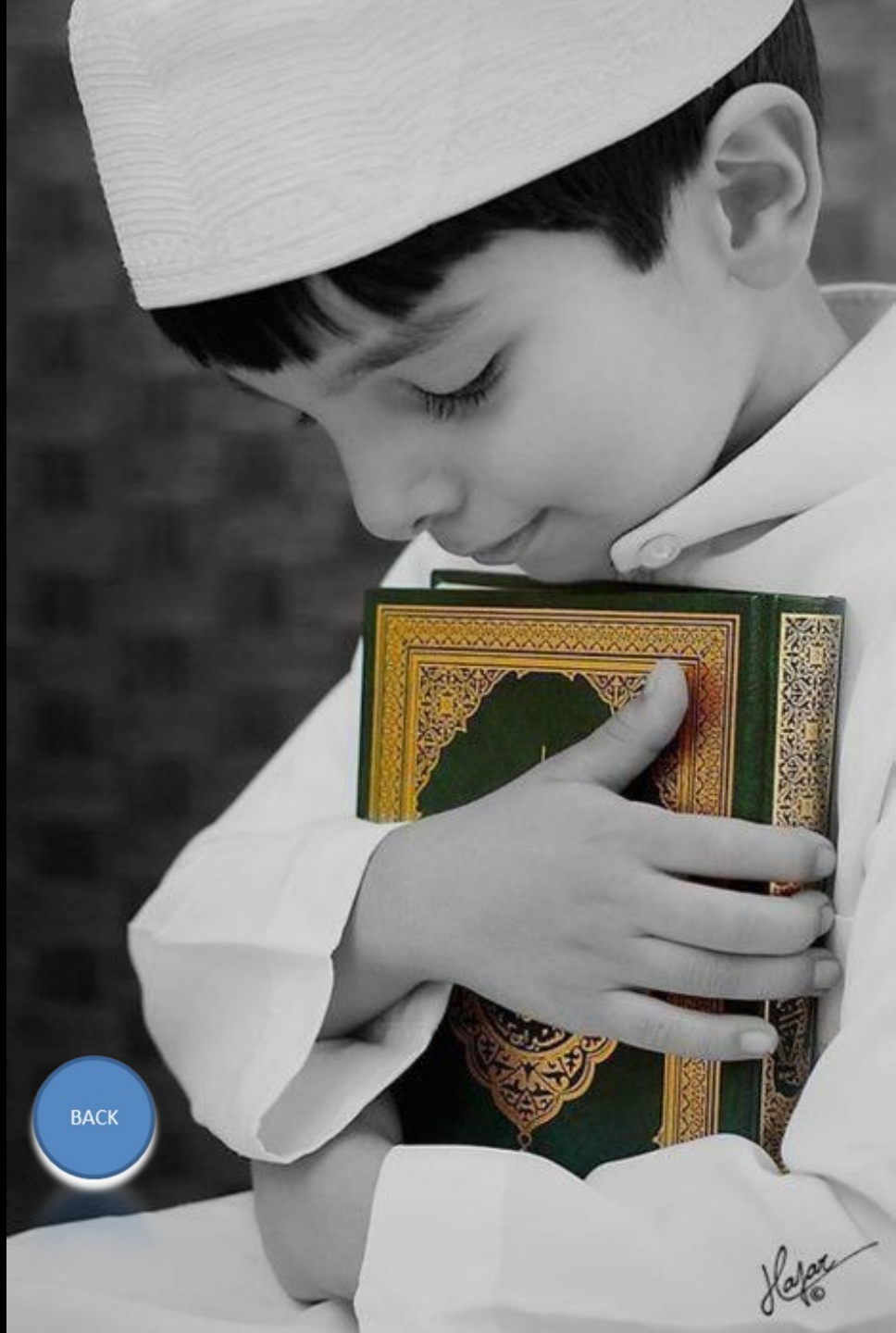
- **The surah strongly emphasizes that every person is watched and recorded by an angel and will be held accountable before Allah. People cannot hide their actions, and all secrets will be exposed on the Day of Judgment when no one can help them.**

Creation and Resurrection:

- **By pointing to the creation of humans from a drop of fluid, the surah reminds that Allah, who created human beings from nothing, is fully capable of bringing them back to life after death for resurrection and judgment.**

Power of the Quran:

- **The Quran is described as a decisive word, not idle talk. It separates truth from falsehood and warns of the coming judgment, assuring listeners that everything it contains is certain and meaningful.**



Plots Against the Prophet:

- **It mentions that disbelievers try to plan against the Prophet and the message of Islam, but affirms that Allah also has His plans, and His plan will always succeed. The Prophet is encouraged to remain patient and not to worry about the denial and schemes of the disbelievers. Their defeat is near, and he should give them a little time—it will not last forever.**

Key Lessons

- Every person is constantly watched by angels who record their deeds.
- People will be held accountable before Allah on the Day of Judgment.
- Allah, who created humans from a small drop, can surely bring them back to life.

- On the Day of Judgment, no one will be able to help themselves or others.
- The Quran is a serious and truthful message, not just idle talk.
- Disbelievers may plot, but Allah also plans, and His plan prevails.

THE AYAT IN DETAILS 2

BACK

وَٱلسَّمَآءِ وَٱلطَّارِقِ ١

By the heaven and the nightly star!

BACK

وَمَآ أَدۡرَىٰكَ مَا ٱلطَّارِقُ ۝٢

And what will make you realize what the nightly star is?

BACK

وَٱلسَّمَآءِ وَٱلطَّارِقِ ﴿١﴾ وَمَآ أَدۡرَىٰكَ مَا ٱلطَّارِقُ ﴿٢﴾ ٱلنَّجۡمُ ٱلثَّاقِبُ ﴿٣﴾
إِن كُلُّ نَفۡسٍ لَّمَّا عَلَيۡهَا حَافِظٞ ﴿٤﴾ فَلۡيَنظُرِ ٱلۡإِنسَٰنُ مِمَّ خُلِقَ ﴿٥﴾

It is the star of piercing brightness.

BACK

إِن كُلُّ نَفْسٍ لَّمَّا عَلَيْهَا حَافِظٌ ﴿٤﴾

There is no soul without a vigilant angel recording everything.

BACK

فَلْيَنظُرِ ٱلْإِنسَٰنُ مِمَّ خُلِقَ ۝٥

Let people then consider what they were created from!

BACK

خُلِقَ مِن مَّآءٍ دَافِقٍ ٦

They were created from a spurting fluid,

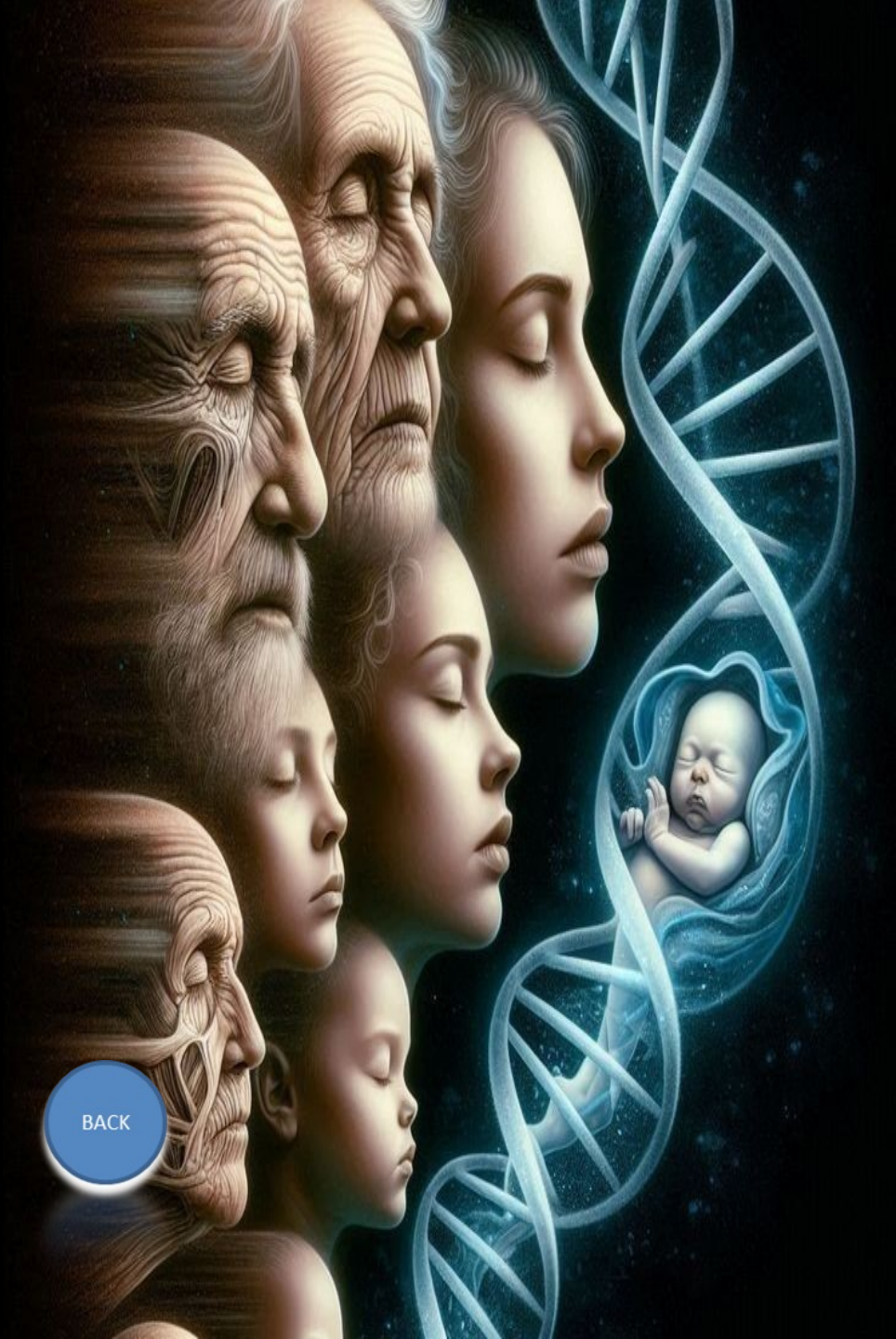
BACK

يَخۡرُجُ مِنۢ بَيۡنِ ٱلصُّلۡبِ وَٱلتَّرَآئِبِ ٧

stemming from between the backbone and the ribcage.1

Footnote - 1

Testes and ovaries are formed in the abdomen of the fetus during the first weeks of pregnancy, before descending to their permanent place in the pelvis. Both are sustained by arteries originating between the backbone and the ribcage.



BACK

خُلِقَ مِن مَّآءٍ دَافِقٍ ۝٦ يَخۡرُجُ مِنۢ بَيۡنِ ٱلصُّلۡبِ وَٱلتَّرَآئِبِ ۝٧ إِنَّهُۥ عَلَىٰ
رَجۡعِهِۦ لَقَادِرٌ ۝٨ يَوۡمَ تُبۡلَى ٱلسَّرَآئِرُ ۝٩ فَمَا لَهُۥ مِن قُوَّةٍ وَلَا نَاصِرٍ

Surely He is fully capable of bringing them back to life

BACK

يَوْمَ تُبْلَى ٱلسَّرَآئِرُ ٩

on the Day all secrets will be disclosed.

BACK

رَجۡعِهِۦ لَقَادِرٞ ۝٨ يَوۡمَ تُبۡلَى ٱلسَّرَآئِرُ ۝٩ فَمَا لَهُۥ مِن قُوَّةٖ وَلَا نَاصِرٖ
۝١٠ وَٱلسَّمَآءِ ذَاتِ ٱلرَّجۡعِ ۝١١ وَٱلۡأَرۡضِ ذَاتِ ٱلصَّدۡعِ ۝١٢ إِنَّهُۥ

Then one will have neither power nor any helper.

BACK

وَٱلسَّمَآءِ ذَاتِ ٱلرَّجۡعِ ١١

By the sky with its recurring cycles,

BACK

وَٱلۡأَرۡضِ ذَاتِ ٱلصَّدۡعِ ١٢

and the earth with its sprouting plants!

BACK

وَالسَّمَاءِ ذَاتِ الرَّجْعِ ﴿١١﴾ وَالْأَرْضِ ذَاتِ الصَّدْعِ ﴿١٢﴾ إِنَّهُ
لَقَوْلٌ فَصْلٌ ﴿١٣﴾ وَمَا هُوَ بِالْهَزْلِ ﴿١٤﴾ إِنَّهُمْ يَكِيدُونَ كَيْدًا ﴿١٥﴾

Surely this Quran is a decisive word,

BACK

وَمَا هُوَ بِٱلْهَزْلِ ﴿١٤﴾

and is not to be taken lightly.

BACK

إِنَّهُمْ يَكِيدُونَ كَيْدًا ﴿١٥﴾

They are certainly devising evil plans,

BACK

وَأَكِيدُ كَيْدًا ﴿١٦﴾

but I too am planning.

BACK

فَمَهِّلِ ٱلۡكَٰفِرِينَ أَمۡهِلۡهُمۡ رُوَيۡدًا ١٧

So bear with the disbelievers [O Prophet]. Let them be for [just] a little while.

BACK

EXCERCISES
BACK

1. Rememberi ng (Recall)

1. What is the meaning of the word *At-Tāriq*?
2. How many verses are in Surah At-Tāriq?
3. In which juz’ of the Qur’an is this surah located?
4. What does Allah swear by in the opening verses?
5. How is At-Tāriq described in the surah?
6. From what substance does Allah say mankind was created?
7. Between which two parts of the body does the gushing fluid come?
8. What does Allah say about every soul?
9. On which day will secrets be revealed?
10. What is said about the Qur’an in the final verses?

2. Understanding (Comprehension)

1. Why does Allah swear by the sky and the night visitor at the beginning of the surah?
2. Explain the meaning of “the piercing star.”
3. What is the purpose of mentioning human creation in this surah?
4. What does it mean that every soul has a guardian over it?
5. Why are secrets exposed on the Day of Judgment?
6. What is meant by the Qur’an being a decisive word?
7. Explain the difference between “planning” of disbelievers and Allah’s planning mentioned at the end.
8. How do the opening verses connect with the theme of accountability?

3. Applying

1. How can the reminder that every soul has a guardian influence a Muslim’s daily behavior?
2. In what way does remembering our creation increase humility?
3. How can belief in the Day when secrets are revealed affect personal honesty?
4. How should a believer respond when facing opposition, based on the final verses?
5. How can this surah strengthen one’s certainty in resurrection?

4. Analyzing

1. Analyze the structure of the surah. How does it move from cosmic signs to human accountability?
2. Why is the star described specifically as “piercing”?
3. Compare the beginning and ending of the surah. What thematic connection exists between them?
4. What is the relationship between human origin and resurrection as presented in this surah?
5. How does the contrast between human weakness and Allah’s power develop the main message?
6. Why does the surah emphasize both surveillance (guardian over every soul) and exposure (secrets revealed)?

5. Evaluating

1. Why is the argument of resurrection in this surah logically convincing?
2. Evaluate the effectiveness of using natural phenomena (stars, sky, rain) as evidence of divine power.
3. Why is the Qur’an described as not being a joke or trivial speech?
4. Assess the consequences of denying the truths mentioned in this surah.
5. Why is patience advised indirectly in the final verse (“So allow time for the disbelievers”)?

6. Creating (Higher-Order Thinking)

1. Write a short reflection connecting the themes of Surah At-Tāriq to modern life.
2. Design a short khutbah outline based on the main lessons of the surah.
3. Create a concept map linking: creation → accountability → resurrection → divine justice.
4. Compose three life lessons derived from this surah.
5. Develop a discussion question that connects this surah to scientific reflection about the universe.
6. Write a paragraph explaining how this surah builds spiritual awareness in a believer.

و الحمد لله رب العالمين

BACK